Labour Market Bulletin

Quebec

July 2018

This Labour Market Bulletin provides an analysis of Labour Force Survey results for the province of Quebec and its regions.

OVERVIEW

According to the latest estimates of Statistics Canada's Labour Force Survey, the Quebec labour market changed little in July 2018. In total, 8,400 jobs were lost in comparison to the previous month, amounting to a slight 0.2% decrease. Gains in full-time employment (+14,700 jobs or +0.4%) were not sufficient to offset the decline in part-time employment (-23,100 jobs or -2.8%). The employment decrease is attributable to self-employed and public sector workers, while private sector employment remained relatively stable. However, the situation was different across the country, since Canada posted a 0.3% employment increase, helped by Ontario where a 0.8% growth was observed.

On an annual basis, the picture remained positive, although employment growth seems to be slowing down. The labour market benefited from the creation of 16,400 jobs since July 2017, representing a 0.4% increase which was solely attributable to private sector jobs. This upward trend was due to both full-time employment (+13,700 jobs) and part-time employment (+2,800). Since the number of workers grew at a slower pace than the working-age population, the employment rate saw a slight decrease of 0.2 percentage point and stood at 60.9%. Over the past year, the trend was similar, but more pronounced, in Ontario and in Canada as a whole, where employment growth rates reached 2.6% and 1.3%, respectively.

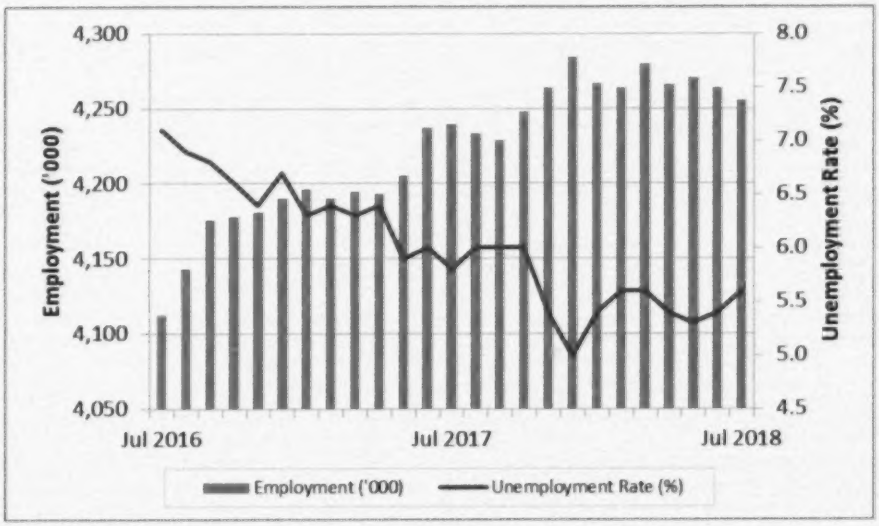
Quebec Monthly Labour Force Statistics

Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Data	July 2018	June 2018	July 2017	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Population 15 + ('000)	6,989.4	6,982.1	6,935.0	7.3	0.1	54.4	0.8
Labour Force ('000)	4,505.7	4,507.2	4,498.3	-1.5	0.0	7.4	0.2
Employment ('000)	4,255.6	4,264.0	4,239.2	-8.4	-0.2	16.4	0.4
Full-Time ('000)	3,446.6	3,431.9	3,432.9	14.7	0.4	13.7	0.4
Part-Time ('000)	809.0	832.1	806.2	-23.1	-2.8	2.8	0.3
Unemployment ('000)	250.1	243.2	259.2	6.9	2.8	-9.1	-3.5
Unemployment Rate (%)	5.6	5.4	5.8	0.2	-	-0.2	-
Participation Rate (%)	64.5	64.6	64.9	-0.1	-	-0.4	-
Employment Rate (%)	60.9	61.1	61.1	-0.2	-	-0.2	-

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – Table 14-10-0287

Quebec Monthly Employment and Unemployment Rate



While the participation rate barely fluctuated between June and July 2018, it dipped by a slight 0.4 percentage point over the past year and reached 64.5%, due to a slower growth of the labour force in comparison to that of the working-age population.

During the past month, an additional 6,900 people were looking for work, which pushed up the unemployment rate by 0.2 percentage point, to 5.6%, a level which remains historically low. The picture is more positive over a twelve-month horizon, with 9,100 fewer unemployed workers and 7,400 more people in the labour force than a year ago, which led to a 0.2 percentage point decrease in the unemployment rate.

During the past month, the unemployment rate for the 14-25 age group increased by 0.2 percentage point and settled at 10.1%. Although this growth is entirely attributable to the progression of the unemployment rate for young women (as the rate for young men decreased), the rate for young women (8.3%) remains lower than that for young men (12.1%). Over a yearly horizon, the opposite can be seen, with a decline of the youth unemployment rate, thanks to the decrease of this rate for young women.

Quebec Monthly Unemployment Rates, by Gender and Age

Seasonally Adjusted Data	July 2018	June 2018	July 2017	Monthly Variation	Yearly Variation
	%	%	%	(% points)	(% points)
Total	5.6	5.4	5.8	0.2	-0.2
25 years and over	3	4.7	5.1	0.1	-0.3
Men - 25 years and over	5.2	5.1	5.5	0.1	-0.3
Women - 25 years and over	4.4	4.3	4.6	0.1	-0.2
15 to 24 years	10.1	9.9	9.9	0.2	0.2
Men - 15 to 24 years	12.1	13.1	9.4	-1.0	2.7
Women - 15 to 24 years	8.3	6.8	10.5	1.5	-2.2

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – Table 14-10-0287

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

On an industrial basis, employment in the goods-producing sector saw a 0.3% decline, which represents 2,500 fewer jobs in comparison to June 2018. The construction (-0.1%) and manufacturing (-0.8%) sectors both saw employment decreases. On a yearly basis, losses in the goods-producing sector were due exclusively to manufacturing (-3.0%), while all other sectors posted workforce increases.

Conversely, services lost 6,000 jobs in comparison to last month. The workforce declines in trade, transportation and warehousing, public administration, accommodation and food services, as well as in other services, exceeded the gains in the other industries of this sector. However, the trend was different on a yearly basis. The services sector benefited from a 0.8% growth, representing a total of 26,000 jobs created over the past twelve months. Sectors that contributed the most to this increase include business services, building services and other support services, educational services, as well as the finance, insurance, real estate and leasing sector.

Quebec Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Industry

Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000)	July 2018	June 2018	July 2017	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Total employed, all industries	4,255.6	4,264.0	4,239.2	-8.4	-0.2	16.4	0.4
Goods-producing sector	856.6	859.1	866.2	-2.5	-0.3	-9.6	-1.1
Agriculture	58.2	54.0	57.8	4.2	7.8	0.4	0.7
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	38.6	42.1	36.9	-3.5	-8.3	1.7	4.6
Utilities	27.6	26.9	26.8	0.7	2.6	0.8	3.0
Construction	247.4	247.6	244.8	-0.2	-0.1	2.6	1.1
Manufacturing	484.8	488.6	499.9	-3.8	-0.8	-15.1	-3.0
Services-producing sector	3,398.9	3,404.9	3,372.9	-6.0	-0.2	26.0	0.8
Trade	653.6	667.8	662.4	-14.2	-2.1	-8.8	-1.3
Transportation and warehousing	211.1	218.6	210.6	-7.5	-3.4	0.5	0.2
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	244.1	244.1	232.3	0.0	0.0	11.8	5.1
Professional, scientific and technical services	329.4	325.6	338.3	3.8	1.2	-8.9	-2.6
Business, building and other support services	196.5	193.6	170.7	2.9	1.5	25.8	15.1
Educational services	310.4	294.8	292.5	15.6	5.3	17.9	6.1
Health care and social assistance	585.6	583.9	582.8	1.7	0.3	2.8	0.5
Information, culture and recreation	179.5	174.9	188.6	4.6	2.6	-9.1	-4.8
Accommodation and food services	267.5	273.1	272.0	-5.6	-2.1	-4.5	-1.7
Other services	174.5	175.5	174.5	-1.0	-0.6	0.0	0.0
Public administration	246.7	253.2	248.3	-6.5	-2.6	-1.6	-0.6

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – Table 14-10-0355

REGIONAL ANALYSIS

Most economic regions saw an improvement in employment over the past year. The most significant growth was seen in Bas-Saint-Laurent (+10.5%). At the same time, there was a decrease in the number of workers in other regions, namely Gaspésie—Îles-de-la-Madeleine (-6.4%), Centre-du-Québec (-6.1%) and Lanaudière (-5.0%).

Over the past year, the unemployment rate declined in most Quebec regions. Only two regions are exception to this rule: Centre-du-Québec (+0.7 percentage point) and Gaspésie—Îles-de-la-Madeleine (+0.4 percentage point). In July 2018, the Chaudière-Appalaches region had the lowest unemployment rate (2.6%), while the highest rate was found in Gaspésie—Îles-de-la-Madeleine (10.0%).

Quebec Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Economic Region

3-Month Moving Averages Seasonally Unadjusted Data	Employment			Unemployment Rate		
	July 2018 ('000)	July 2017 ('000)	Yearly Variation (%)	July 2018 (%)	July 2017 (%)	Yearly Variation (% points)
Quebec	4,328.1	4,301.9	0.6	5.2	5.8	-0.6
Economic Regions						
Gaspésie—Îles-de-la-Madeleine	37.8	40.4	-6.4	10.0	9.6	0.4
Bas-Saint-Laurent	93.7	84.8	10.5	4.6	6.2	-1.6
Capitale-Nationale	397.6	406.0	-2.1	3.9	4.2	-0.3
Chaudière-Appalaches	224.0	211.9	5.7	2.6	3.2	-0.6
Estrie	167.4	159.2	5.2	3.8	4.7	-0.9
Centre-du-Québec	121.2	129.1	-6.1	5.3	4.6	0.7
Montérégie	821.4	818.3	0.4	3.8	4.0	-0.2
Montréal	1,066.4	1,053.0	1.3	7.8	8.5	-0.7
Laval	241.1	226.4	6.5	4.7	6.4	-1.7
Lanaudière	255.5	269.0	-5.0	4.7	4.9	-0.2
Laurentides	311.3	308.4	0.9	5.5	5.6	-0.1
Outaouais	206.2	207.3	-0.5	4.7	5.1	-0.4
Abitibi-Témiscamingue	77.0	75.8	1.6	3.8	4.7	-0.9
Mauricie	126.5	125.7	0.6	3.4	4.6	-1.2
Saguenay—Lac-Saint-Jean	127.2	131.4	-3.2	5.6	6.7	-1.1
Côte-Nord & Nord-du-Québec	53.9	55.2	-2.4	4.1	5.8	-1.7

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – Table 14-10-0293

***Note:** In preparing this document, the authors have taken care to provide clients with labour market information that is timely and accurate at the time of publication. Since labour market conditions are dynamic, some of the information presented here may have changed since this document was published. Users are encouraged to also refer to other sources for additional information on the local economy and labour market. Information contained in this document does not necessarily reflect official policies of Employment and Social Development Canada.*

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***For information on the Labour Force Survey**, please visit the Statistics Canada website at:*
www.statcan.gc.ca

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